MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

22 SEPTEMBER 1982

Israel: Aftermath of Beirut Massacre

The Israeli Cabinet rejects the proposal for a judicial inquiry commission into the "monstrous act perpetrated by a unit of the Lebanese forces in Beirut" but will discuss a way to conduct a "proper investigation" into the massacre, Israel's Cabinet secretary announced after the Cabinet meeting in a statement broadcast by Jerusalem radio. Prime Minister Menahem Begin told the Cabinet that the establishment of an inquiry commission might seem like an admission of guilt on Israel's part and he reemphasized that Israel bears no responsibility for the murders, the radio reported. Begin's demand for no Cabinet discussion of the proposal for a judicial inquiry was sharply opposed by four ministers, the radio said, and Energy Minister Yitzhaq Berman insisted that his support for the establishment of an inquiry be recorded in the minutes. Berman will vote against the Cabinet during the 22 September Knesset session and will later resign, the radio disclosed. The radio also noted that the chairman of the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee has complained to Begin about the failure of Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon, the chief of staff, the commander of the Northern Command and the IDF commander in Beirut to attend a committee meeting at which they were expected to answer questions on the massacre.

Meanwhile, the IDF spokesman denied reports that IDF officers warned Sharon not to allow the Phalangists to enter the refugee camps, according to IDF radio. The spokesman also denied that the Israelis flew Maj Sa'd Haddad's Christian militia to Beirut to participate in the massacre and claimed that Haddad's forces were not in Beirut.

Arabs in Galilee villages and West Bank towns demonstrated against the massacre, according to Jerusalem radio reports.

Lebanon

IDF Leaving Beirut, Multinational Forces To Arrive -- Lebanese Army and IDF officers agreed that the IDF will hand all of west Beirut over to the Lebanese Army by 26 September, Jerusalem radio announced. The officers agreed that the area still to be evacuated will be divided into five parts, and the IDF will leave one part each day. Meanwhile, Beirut radio reported that although Israeli forces are still deployed in various axes and intersections, they are continuing to leave west Beirut. Citing security sources, the radio said the Lebanese Army controls 60 percent of the city.

The Israeli Cabinet agreed to the proposal by U.S. President Ronald Reagan to reintroduce the multinational forces into Beirut. The Cabinet statement, read over Jerusalem radio by the Cabinet secretary, also proposed the formation of a committee composed of Lebanese, Israeli and multinational force participants to discuss ways to guarantee Beirut's future security. According to Paris radio reports, French troops are on their way to Lebanon and the French Ministry of External Relations has warned Israel that Beirut must be cleared of foreign soldiers before the multinational forces arrive.

Al-Jumayyil Election Congratulations -- Israeli Prime Minister Begin wished Amin al-Jumayyil success as the new Lebanese president in a congratulatory message carried by Jerusalem radio. Militia Commander Haddad said he hopes for cooperation with Al-Jumayyil despite the fact that Amin is considered a Syrian "sympathizer," ITIM reported. Haddad noted that fears were expressed in villages in southern Lebanon about revenge or restrictive measures which may be implemented against them for being pro-Israeli. The Central Information Bureau of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine wished Al-Jumayyil success and requested that he improve Palestinian-Lebanese relations, dissolve the militias and reject a peace treaty with Israel, Monte Carlo radio reported.

Arab Ministers Meeting

Arab foreign ministers from 13 countries were present at the opening of the Arab League foreign ministers conference in Tunis, held at the request of the PLO in the aftermath of the Beirut Massacre, Tunis radio reported. The radio noted that Libya's head of the Peoples Bureau for Foreign Liaison 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi chaired the opening session; Beirut radio reported that Lebanon was represented by the ambassador in Tunis, who is also a delegate to the Arab League. Speaking at the opening session, Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi stressed that what Israel fears most is a unified Arab stand, adding that this stand would be just as effective if it took on a political character instead of a military one, Tunis radio said. Klibi emphasized the need to convince the U.S. Government to talk directly with the PLO to prove it is a neutral superpower. According to Tripoli Voice of Arab Homeland radio, Al-'Ubaydi spoke at the meeting and called for a unified militant Arab stand.

The PLO position paper submitted at the conference called for political and economic measures against the United States to show the Arabs' revulsion for the Beirut tragedies, Tunis radio reported. The PLO also called for economic sanctions against Israel.

According to the radio, a conference source disclosed that the ministers decided to have Arab ambassadors in Washington protest to the U.S. Government over the massacres. It was also decided to extend financial support to the PLO and Syria, the source said.

PLO

PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat met in Jidda with Saudi King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, SPA reported. 'Arafat will shortly visit Khartoum for talks with Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri, according to SUNA. Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali said 'Arafat may visit Egypt; though not during the PLO leader's current tour, MENA reported. SANA noted that the PLO's Higher Military Council met in Damascus.

Egypt

AL-AHRAM reported that Egypt's ambassador to Israel will not return to his post until after the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Beirut and Lebanon, according to MENA. The decision to recall the ambassador is a "practical expression" of the Egyptian people's "indignation at and denunciation of the savage acts and massacres which the Israeli forces continue to commit against the Palestinians in Lebanon," according to a related editorial by the newspaper cited by Cairo radio. Another Cairo paper, AL-AKHBAR, accused Israel of planning the Beirut massacre, MENA reported.

Iran-Iraq War

An Iraqi military spokesman announced on 22 September that Iraqi planes made direct hits on five western Iranian cities, spreading panic among the Iranian forces, INA reported. The spokesman added that warning flights by Iraqi aircraft were carried out over Hamadan, Kermanshah and Qom. On 21 September, an Iraqi military communique carried by Baghdad radio claimed Iraqi planes scored effective hits on Iranian positions in the central battle sector and inflicted "massive losses" on the enemy. An Iranian military communique carried by Tehran radio on that day said Iraqi overflights were countered in the south and west of the country by Iranian air defenses. Meanwhile, INA reported that Iraq is working on production of a supersonic pilotless drone.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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AFP: SOVIETS SHIFT HELICOPTERS NORTH OF KABUL

BK211629 Hong Kong AFP in English 1400 GMT 21 Sep 82

[Excerpt] New Delhi, Sept 21 (AFP) -- The Soviet military command in Afghanistan has shifted half of its helicopter gunships from the Kabul International Airport to Baghram Air Base, north of the Afghan capital, for a new assault on the strategic Panjsher Valley, Western diplomatic sources said here today.

The reports were confirmed by at least two independent diplomatic sources, who monitor developments in embattled Afghanistan.

Western analysts said the military command had apparently changed its strategy on Panjsher where the government offensive to dislodge Moslem insurgents fighting the Soviet-backed government of Babrak Karmal has suffered a number of setbacks.

The emphasis is now to shift from ground fighting to air attack, the analysts said and this was linked to the movement of aerial forces from Kabul to Baghram, a military airport about 40 kms north of Kabul.

Western diplomats said reports on the present fighting in Panjsher were undetailed but they confirmed that fighting was still continuing in many places in the valley.

There was, however, no independent confirmation of the reports and Afghan diplomats here refused to comment.

Western diplomats said an unspecified number of Soviet-Afghan troops, earlier sent to fight the insurgents in Panjsher, had since returned to Kabul, supporting the analysts observations that there would now be less ground fighting and more air attack.

JASARAT REPORTS REBEL ATTACK ON PAKTIA FORT

GF211855 Karachi JASARAT in Urdu 16 Sep 82 p 1

[Text] Peshawar, 15 Sep (PPI) -- Afghan mujahidin have surrounded and attacked a military fort in Paktia and have killed several Soviet and Karmal soldiers. The dead include three Soviet advisers. The mujahidin also gunned down two Soviet transport helicopters.

News reaching from across the border indicates that on 8 September, 200 Afghan guerrillas under the command of Mohammad Na'im attacked the 'Ali Khel military fort in Paktia using Soviet-made "Hon" cannon, antiaircraft guns and rocket launchers. During the attack, which lasted 2 days, the Afghan guerrillas killed 25 Soviet and Karmal soldiers, including 3 Soviet advisers, and destroyed several armored cars and military vehicles. On the third day the Soviets brought in supplies and help for the soldiers remaining at the fort by helicopter. The mujahidin gunned down two Soviet transport helicopters. The siege continues around the fort, which is believed to contain 600 Soviet and Karmal soldiers.

BBC CITES REPORTS OF HEAVY SOVIET, AFGHAN LOSSES

TA211641 London BBC World Service in English 1600 GMT 21 Sep 82

[Text] Western diplomatic reports reaching Delhi say that both Afghan rebel forces and government and Soviet troops have suffered heavy losses in continuing fighting in the strategic Panjsher Valley. The reports say that the town of Bazare in the main valley and its surrounding villages appear to have suffered most from Soviet air attacks. Roads leading from the entrance to the valley to the garrison town of Rokheh appear to be strewn with the wreckage of armored personnel carriers, tanks and helicopters.

COUNCIL DISCUSSES DEVELOPMENT OF KABUL

LD210630 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0448 GMT 21 Sep 82

[Text] Kabul, September 20, BAKHTAR -- A session of the Council of Ministers of the DRA was held here today under the chairmanship of Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the Politburo of the PDPA CC and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the DRA. The meeting discussed a number of important issues related to different aspects of the socio-economic and cultural life of the country.

Speaking at the session, Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand reviewed the participation of ministries and government departments in implementing the general plan for the development of Kabul city. The party, government and Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA CC and president of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA, personally attached extraordinary importance to the development and prosperity of Kabul city, added Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand.

In the general plan of the development of Kabul city, he added, harmonising the outward appearance of Kabul city with the tasks of its future economic growth and the solution of important social and cultural problems have been taken into account.

The chairman of the Council of Ministers, dwelling on the report of the State Planning Committee regarding the designing and layout of major projects and measures for improving affairs connected to project construction, said: "The expansion of the construction of industrial, residential and cultural projects and general services enterprises demands a new approach towards the designing of these projects and enterprises".

He said that all necessary conditions had been provided for the centralisation of planning different projects and improving coordination between the project planning and construction enterprises.

The mayor of Kabul presented a report to the session on the active participation of the ministries, government departments and other enterprises in the implementation of the master plan of Kabul city.

The session of the Council of Ministers discussed a number of laws and regulations and approved them. These included the law of application of penalties during imprisonment in the prisons, supplement No 12 to the law of income tax, regulation on the scientific personnel of the Academy of Sciences of the DRA and the regulation for instituting health commissions for certifying disability.

AGRICULTUKAL COOPERATION ACCORD SIGNED WITH USSR

LD212220 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 21 Sep 82

[Text] An economic cooperation agreement in agriculture has been concluded today in the Ministry of Agriculture between the DRA and the Soviet Union.

The agreement was signed by Dr 'Abdol Ghafar Lakanwal, minister of agriculture and land reform, and [name indistinct], the economic attache of the Soviet Embassy in Kabul, and its documents were exchanged.

According to this agreement, between 1982-1984, the Soviet Union will provide assistance for the construction of six soil and agricultural chemistry laboratories, eight laboratories in the capital and some provinces for control and propagation of cereals and cotton seeds, the extension of an artificial insemination station, the provision of mobile veterinary centers in the border areas, the establishment of a poultry station and the construction of an agricultural technical school. This assistance will be funded by the R200-million loan provided in the Afghan-Soviet agreement signed on 24 December 1980.

In addition to economic, technical and research assistance, help will be provided for projects, material and machinery will be supplied, and specialists and advisers to train Afghan personnel will be sent.

VENKATARAMAN MEETS WITH UK'S JOHN NOTT

BK210914 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 21 Sep 82

[Text] British Defense Secretary John Nott called on Defense Minister R. Venkataraman in New Delhi today. Later, Nott had discussions with the senior officials of the Defense Ministry on Indo-British cooperation, particularly in the field of defense.

EXPRESS URGES STRONGER TRADE TIES WITH JAPAN

BK1080418 Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English 7 Sep 82 p 6

[Editorial: "Mutual Rediscovery"]

[Text] The visit of Japan's foreign minister, Mr Yoshio Sakurauchi, to India marks another step towards enhanced mutual cooperation following Mrs Gandhi's brief stopover in Tokyo on her way back from the United States. Indo-Japanese relations in the past have essentially been of a peripheral nature. By and large, the association was confined to Japan's contributions to the Aid-India consortium and some trade in a few commodities. During its post-war reconstruction phase, Japan's export interest was mostly confined to South-East Asian markets, for which India might have seemed a likely rival. To meet its rapidly growing raw material requirements, Japan relied on Australia and Latin America. Later, its phenomenal industrial recovery and then its pre-eminence in sophisticated technologies impelled it to concentrate more on markets in the advanced countries.

On the other hand, India's widening technological association with the socialist countries and its restrictive policies on know-how imports and foreign investment did not encourage close ties with Japan. The situation has, however, changed dramatically in recent years. As Mr Sakurauchi aptly put it, the time has indeed come for India and Japan to rediscover each other. The recession-hit advanced countries are putting increasing pressure on Japan to moderate its export thrust. At one stage, China's ambitious modernisation programme seemed to offer an answer and there was a flurry of massive investment and technology-transfer deals between the two countries. But the Japanese were soon disillusioned when several of these contracts were cancelled by China. The prospect of large Japanese investments in Siberia has receded. Meanwhile, shrinking multilateral aid and the widening technological gap have compelled India to open its doors to foreign know-how and investments.

The change in India's development strategy is reflected in the joint ventures the private and public sector companies have entered into with foreign firms including some from Japan. Suzuki and Toyota are investing in Indian companies. India may not be an affluent market, but it is a sizable one. Politically, too, India and Japan have a common interest in global disarmament and peace and stability in Asia. The Japanese connection must be cultivated.

NEW FIELDGUN DESIGNED, BUILT INDIGENOUSLY

BK190905 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 19 Sep 82

[Text] A new fieldgun has been designed and fabricated in the country. It is comparable to any of its type in the world. The gun is ideally suited for use in all sorts of terrain and can be carried by helicopter. The defense research and development organization has fabricated the gun, incorporating the latest technology. Known as IFG MK-2, it is considerably lighter than its predecessor.

HAQ ON AFGHANISTAN, NUCLEAR ARMS, ELECTIONS

BK220819 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 22 Sep 82

[Text] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq has said that the Afghan issue is inherently a political problem and it must be solved through political means. He was talking to media representatives from foreign countries who have been sent to Pakistan by the UN high commissioner for refugees to visit Afghan refugees' tented villages.

The president said a great deal of progress has been made during the recent indirect talks in Geneva with representatives of the political party in power in Afghanistan. Although there was no breakthrough, the very fact that there had been a beginning of indirect talks under the auspices of the UN secretary general was a good beginning.

The president said the first principle on which we are trying to settle the Afghan issue is that the Soviet troops should withdraw. He said the foreign military intervention in Afghanistan has disturbed the stability and the massive foreign military presence in Afghanistan has caused the impact of instability to be felt beyond its borders.

The president said until the Afghan refugees return to their homes, Pakistan would continue to share its meager resources with the Afghan refugees. He said the number of refugees in Pakistan is the greatest in the world. So far 2.7 million Afghan people have taken shelter and the number of Afghan refugees coming to Pakistan has varied from 25,000 to 100,000 a month. Despite all this we have continued to extend our hospitality to our Afghan brothers. The president said looking after such a great number of refugees is also an economic burden for a country like Pakistan. Assistance rendered by friendly countries and internal agencies meets only 50 percent of the needs of the Afghan refugees. The remaining needs are met through Pakistan's own resources. The president said that Pakistan is spending about $1 million every day to look after the Afghan refugees. The president said Pakistan definitely hoped the Afghan refugees would return to their homes some day.

Replying to a question on nuclear energy, the president said that Pakistan has neither the intention nor the capability of acquiring nuclear weapons. He said Pakistan is trying to acquire nuclear technology to meet its energy needs. He stressed the call on developed nations to help developing nations in solving their energy problems.

Replying to a question on elections, the president said the government is committed to holding elections and it will not take long to hold elections. The government is trying to find a system of government fully in accordance with Islam. The president emphasized that the present government is much more democratic than the past government.

The present government has held local elections after a period of 16 years because it was necessary to begin the work at grass root-level to restore democracy. The so-called democratic government of the past did not take any such step.

The president said he had tried to hold general elections twice, but they were postponed at the insistence of political parties whichwere not prepared to fight elections. The president said positive results would not have been possible under those circumstances and the same situation as that in July 1977 would have arisen, in which case he would have been forced to intervene. The president emphatically declared that the government is making all possible efforts to create a conducive and favorable environment in which people can exercise their right to vote.

Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq said his government is trying its best to introduce a complete Islamic system in the country.

Replying to a question on the smuggling of narcotics, the president said Pakistan was not producing this banned commodity. The fact is that these drugs come from other places and are sent to Western countries through Pakistan.

HAQ ON KAMPUCHEA, REJOINING COMMONWEALTH

BK200229 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 20 Sep 82 pp 1, 3

[By The Chongkhadikit]

[Excerpt] Islamabad -- Pakistan will support a plan to allow Prince Sihanouk to address next year's non-aligned summit meeting in New Delhi, President Ziaul Haq said in an exclusive interview yesterday.

"We believe that Democratic Kampuchea should be allowed to reoccupy its rightful place in the meetings of the movement," President Zia said.

The Kampuchean seat in the movement has been vacant since 1980, but the issue is certain to come up at the New Delhi meeting, which is scheduled for next February or March.

Zia told me that his delegation would support a plan to allow Sihanouk to speak to the meeting, as well as restoring the Kampuchean seat to what has become a coalition resistance led by the prince.

"But for the positive role played by the Non-aligned Movement, superpower rivalry would have been far more acute and the threat to world peace would have increased correspondingly," Zia said.

Expressing support for ASEAN aims and objectives, Zia said: "Our views on key issues such as Afghanistan and Kampuchea coincide. There is considerable scope for developing closer economic cooperation and increasing trade between Pakistan and the ASEAN countries."

In a wide-ranging interview, the first exclusive meeting he has held with a newsman, Zia also discussed Thai-Pakistani relations.

"The burden imposed on us by the influx of Afghan refugees has, among other things, helped us better understand the problems faced by your country," he said.

"We admire the courage and sagacity of the Thai leadership and the people of Thailand who have successfully continued their march on the road to progress and prosperity in spite of compulsions generated by a tense politico-strategic environment."

Zia praised the work which his majesty the king has done for the people, including Thai Muslims in the south.

Zia said during the interview that Pakistan would like to rejoin the British Commonwealth.

"Pakistan is a member of the Organisation of Islamic Conference and the Non-aligned Movement," he said. "The Commonwealth would provide us with another forum to make our contribution, however small, for a maintenance of peace and stability in the world. We would, therefore, be happy to resume our membership if invited to do so." Former Prime Minister 'Ali Bhutto took Pakistan out of the Commonwealth.

Zia said: "We believe that the Commonwealth is a useful organisation at whose gatherings subjects of overall concern to its members and the world community are discussed, which lead to a better appreciation of one another's viewpoint.

"Personal rapport which leaders of the Commonwealth develop on such occasions is a positive factor in easing tension in the world."

MILITARY GOVERNOR WARNS OF 'ENEMIES ABROAD'

BK171207 Hong Kong AFP in English 0204 GMT 17 Sep 82

[Text] Islamabad, Sept 17 (AFP) -- The military governor of the North West Frontier (NWF) Province, which shares a frontier with Afghanistan, charged on Thursday that "enemies across the border" were infiltrating explosives, arms and saboteurs into Pakistan.

Reacting to recent violent incidents in the country's two biggest cities, Karachi and Lahore, Lieutenant General Fazle Haq said elements abroad wanted to harm Pakistan by fanning political violence.

The general said a terrorist group, Al-Zulfiqar, based at Kabul, was planning to overthrow military President Ziaul Haq, who came to power in July 1977 after toppling the civilian regime of executed former Premier Zulfiqar 'Ali Bhutto.

In the past three days, two of President Zia's political supporters have been killed in Karachi. One was murdered and another died in an unexplained road accident.

Threatening letters have been received by other Zia backers, including Home Minister Mahmud Haroon and Chairman of the Federal Advisory Council (nominated parliament) Khwaja Safdar, whose house in the Punjab town of Sialkot was bombed early this week.

In an implicit reference to the banned National Democratic Party led by pro-Moscow Pathan leader Abdul Wali Khan, the provincial governor said in border town of Peshawar that besides "enemies abroad," certain political parties which were still unreconciled to the creation of Pakistan were creating disruptive conditions.

(Wali Khan's father, Abdul Ghaffar Khan, 90, opposed the Pakistan movement which led to the division of the Indian sub-continent in 1947.)

The governor warned that the regime would never allow such elements to succeed in their "heinous designs to harm Pakistan."

He called on the people to guard against the "machinations of disruptive elements and their mischief against national unity and solidarity."

Similar views were expressed by Labour Minister Ghulam Dastagir Khan, who said subversives were directed from outside Pakistan.

With the renewed wave of terrorism, over 1,000 supporters of left-wing parties, along with students and known cirminals, have been rounded up. Police have also stepped up a search for suspected arsonists, thieves and saboteurs.

President Zia has ordered issuance of gun licenses to some citizens for personal protection, following a demand by Majlis-i-Shoora (Advisory Council) members for stepped up security for themselves. He has also sought public cooperation to combat terrorism, which he said had become a common phenomenon even in the advanced world.

ARMS, AMMUNITION SEIZED AT ISLAMABAD AIRPORT

BK220705 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 22 Sep 82

[Text] According to Associated Press of Pakistan, custom authorities seized six wooden boxes containing automatic rifles, pistols and ammunition at Islamabad Airport. These arms were addressed to a foreigner living in Islamabad. One person has been arrested.

MURTAZA BHUTTO WANTS TO LEAD OPPOSITION PARTY

GF211817 Karachi JASARAT in Urdu 17 Sep 82 p 1, 10

[Text] Rawalpindi, 16 Sep (PPI) -- It has been learned that Murtaza Bhutto wants to take over the leadership of the Pakistan People's Party from Nusrat Bhutto. For this purpose he has called a conference of all the People's Party workers now residing in foreign countries. The conference is to be held in Libya and will discuss increasing party activities within Pakistan in view of the present-day political situation. The activities of the terrorist organization Al-Murtaza will also be discussed.

According to THE TIMES OF INDIA, the conference will be attended by 250 followers of Murtaza Bhutto. According to the paper, the party is now divided into several factions. Also according to THE TIMES OF INDIA, the reason for the conference could be that the Soviet Union wants Murtaza Bhutto to be out of Afghanistan while the upcoming talks are held with Pakistan. This way the Soviet Union can create the impression that now it is well-disposed toward having talks with Pakistan on acceptable terms. With this background it is being speculated that the Al-Murtaza terrorist organization may set up its new headquarters in Libya.

TWO MAJOR BALUCHISTAN TRIBES RECONCILE

GF211435 Karachi DAWN in English 19 Sep 82 p 14

[Text] Quetta, Sept 18 -- Two major tribes of Baluchistan, Marri and Bugti, have reconciled after about 20 years.

This was stated by Nawab Mohammad Akbar Bugti and Sher Mohammad Marri while addressing a joint press conference here today.

They further said that both the tribes had suffered heavy losses. Thirty-four persons of Marri tribe and 28 of Bugti tribe had been killed during the vendetta.

BRIEFS

ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK LOAN -- The wheel-ring project being set up by Pakistan automobile corporation in Lasbela District of Baluchistan at a cost of 208 million rupees is expected to go into trial production by March 1983 followed by commercial production in July. The Asian Development Bank has provided a loan of 130 million rupees to meet its foreign exchange cost. The project, being set up in technical collaboration with a British firm, will produce 376,000 wheels for tractors, trucks and Suzuki vehicles annually. [Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 19 Sep 82 BK]

EXPORTS TO SAUDI ARABIA -- Twenty-one exporting firms of Pakistan have signed an agreement with the Saudi-Pakistan trade center in Lahore to export Pakistani goods to Saudi Arabia. Under the agreement, textiles, telephone equipment, carpet and vegetables are to be dispatched to the center for export to Saudi Arabia. [Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 14 Sep 82 BK]

FAYSALABAD RADIO STATION -- A new radio station in Faysalabad is beginning its broadcasts from 15 September. This is the 16th radio station of the Pakistan Broadcasting Corporation in the country. Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Raja Mohammad Zafarul Haq will inaugurate this station. [Text] [Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 15 Sep 82 BK]

VICE ARMY CHIEF RETURNS -- Vice Chief of Army Staff Gen Sawar Khan has returned to Rawalpindi following 1-week official visit to Britain. [Text] [Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 14 Sep 82 BK]

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE NO 1,054

LD211736 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 21 Sep 82

[Communique No 1,054 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. During the past 24 hours, the forces of Islam opened fire over the concentrations, supply axes and fortifications of Iraqi forces in the southern and western parts of the country and disrupted enemy land operations.

In the western part of the country, in a clash with enemy forces who were planning to infiltrate Mehran, our forces forced them to retreat and inflicted casualties upon them.

In the Paveh region, exchanges of fire continued, with the fire of the fighters of Islam enjoying superiority. The fire of artillery units of the Ground Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran on the Toveyleh-Shushkin road destroyed two vehicles carrying Iraqi personnel.

In the Musian region, as the result of mortar fire opened over enemy positions, three observation posts and slit trenches were destroyed and the activities of the aggressive forces were stopped.

In the Ilam, Shur-e Shirin, and Salehabad regions, our fighters returned enemy fire and defended their positions.

In the operational zones in the south of the country, our heroic forces maintained their superiority, firing on enemy tank and infantry positions, thus stopping the activities of the Iraqi units and silencing their intense artillery fire.

The heroic fighters of the Gendarmerie of the Islamic Republic of Iran smashed some positions of the aggressive forces on the other side of the Arvand Rud and destroyed a number of enemy slit trenches and heavy and light weapons, killing some of the Iraqi forces.

Yesterday Saddam's blasphemous forces opened heavy, long-range artillery fire on the residential parts of Abadan and destroyed 13 houses and part of a hospital in that city. Meanwhile, five of our compatriots from Abadan were injured.

During the past 24 hours enemy aggression and aerial reconnaissance in the operational areas and border towns in the south and west of the country were neutralized as a result of the tactical operations of the fighter planes of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the fire of the air defense units.

On 19 September three fighters of the ground forces, two fighters from the gendarmerie and two brave personnel of the police were martyred in the operational areas. May their souls be blessed.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

MONTAZERI URGES MUSLIMS TO 'RESORT TO ISLAM'

LD212328 Tehran IRNA in English 1935 GMT 21 Sep 82

[Text] Qom, Sep 21 IRNA -- Ayatollah Montazeri, the highly revered theologian of the country, addressed a message to the hajj pilgrims, in which he assured Muslims throughout the world that "if you nations resort to Islam and dash your hopes in all the materialistic powers of West and East," and that "if you rise up for the cause of Allah only, then be confident that the Almighty will grant you victory and you will succeed in putting an end to the domination of despotic rulers over the destiny of your peoples."

The message stressed that contrary to the treacherous propaganda being launched by agents of colonialism and other enemies, Islam has proved that the great hajj ceremonies, in addition to spiritual and moral aspects, enjoy social and political dimensions as well, which, the ayatollah pointed out, dealt with relations between human beings and directing the dictates of the masses against the arrogants of the time.

Nevertheless, said the message, world Muslims, because of their being kept away from genuine Islamic realities and due to the separation of religion from politics, caused by colonialist propaganda of the enemies of Islam, including Western colonialists, for long years failed to take proper advantage of this divine duty.

Ayatollah Montazeri emphasised that if the Muslims of the world had given proper attention to the power and broad dimensions of the hajj ceremonies and gatherings and if they had prepared in advance to revive and properly exploit it, then undoubtedly their general status would be much better than what it is presently.

And principally, stressed the message, if the Muslims had proper knowledge about the values and sublime goals of Islam, their religious and national sacraments would not become a plaything at the hands of Western and Eastern colonialists and of their illegitimate child, that is, international Zionism.

If the Muslim nations, as it has been greatly emphasized in Islam, had joined ranks against the enemies of Islam, the two world-devouring superpowers of East and West would not be able to dominate them, said the message.

And it went on to say that in that case the servants of the superpower in many of the Arab and non Arab Islamic states would not dare to enslave their nations and keep them dependent on the superpowers and in cultural and economic poverty, despite all the spiritual wealth and God-given resources the nations were enjoying.

Ayatollah Montazeri remarked in his message that all the tyrannies being committed by the criminal Zionism and the usurper communism in Lebanon, Palestine and Afghanistan and elsewhere, as well as the massacre of Muslim Palestinian, Lebanese and Afghan women, children and aged men, were all due to the discord existing among the Muslims.

He continued by reiterating that as long as these discords, irresponsibilities and incoordinations existed, the general situation of the Muslims would not change, and the first qibla of the Muslims would remain under the occupation of Zionism, and the Islamic Middle East would continue to be the arena for the great Satan (U.S.) and its mercenaries.

In another part of the message it was pointed out that the recent crime in Lebanon, which was in fact one of the ominous objectives of the Camp David [words indistinct] warning 'd a good lesson for the world of Islam.

Those governments which kept reticence towards the massacre of the Palestinians and Lebanese Muslim masses and approved of the submission of an Islamic-Arabic state to Zionism in reality committed the greatest treason against Islam and the Muslims, said the message adding that "may God disgrace them."

It was stressed in conclusion of the message, that Islamic associations and organisations as well as liberation movements [words indistinct] "Neither East, nor West" in their activities, and they must make sure that Islam and its sublime teachings were the best ideology and the most powerful backing to attain full independence in all the spiritual and material stages of life.

JURISTS CONSULT KHOMEYNI ON 'UN-ISLAMIC' LAWS

LD211328 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 21 Sep 82

[Text] The theologians and legal experts of the Council of Guardians were received by Imam Khomeyni, the great leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, this morning and heid talks with him.

At the end of the meeting, in reply to a question as to what had been discussed with the imam, Mr Mahdavi-Kani told our correspondent: There were problems about which the Council of Guardians sought the imam's guidance.

One of the problems concerned un-Islamic laws, which are numerous. In this connection, we are faced with two problems. One is that their appraisal requires time. The second is: What will happen to the officials and judges if these laws are abrogated? And what would replace the old laws?

Of course, laws concerning retribution and the penal code were approved by the Majlis and the Council of Guardians expressed its views on them. But laws concerning other issues, like retribution laws and Islamic penal laws and civil laws and also laws concerning banks and the rights of workers and employers could not be settled at once without appraisal.

Regarding this matter we consulted the imam. If he saw fit, the Council of Guardians and the Supreme Judicial Council could review such laws, and those laws clearly contrary to Islamic precepts could be set aside and those laws not clearly contrary to Islam would remain in force so that the Majlis and the Council of Guardians could review them in future.

The imam said: That which is clearly contrary to Islam should be repealed. The rest of the laws that are not clearly contrary to Islam should be abrogated if the system is not disrupted by this.

The imam said: The Majlis, the Council of Guardians and the Supreme Judicial Council should act to replace such laws as soon as possible. If in doubt, judges should refer to the Supreme Judicial Council and to the Council of Guardians.

Mr Mahdavi-Kani added: Another issue discussed with the imam concerned the penal code. Cases may occur where there is no mention of an offence in the actual code, yet the judge might find that it is an offence. The imam was asked if the judge could act according to his finding in this case.

The imam said: Since one cannot do nothing in such cases, the judges should act after consulting the Supreme Judicial Council.

ARDABILI CALLS FOR PURGES IN JUDICIAL SYSTEM

LD182150 Tehran IRNA in English 2001 GMT 18 Sep 82

[Text] Sari, Sept. 18, IRNA -- Chief Justice Ayatollah Musavi-Ardabili said here today that the Iranian justice system should be purged of corrupt and unqualified people in order that it might regain its wonted reputation.

He said that judges representing Islam should possess knowledge and faith and that the task could not be fulfilled by merely putting on the attire.

The ayatollah, who was talking to Islamic judges at the compounds of the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps, expressed hope that with the creation of the college of law in Tehran the country would have another 300 judges in three years' time.

NVOI SCORES 'UN-ISLAMIC' ATTITUDE OF OFFICIALS

TA180604 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1730 GMT 17 Sep 82

[Unattributed commentary: "Insult to the Blood of the Martyrs Is One of the Greatest Sins"]

[Excerpt] Dear compatriots: At one time the JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI newspaper, in an article entitled "That Which Must Remain," rightly wrote: Those who currently bear the responsibility of running the country and continuing the revolution should now more than at any other time pay heed to the point that in the course of Islam's history this is the only opportunity that has become available for the establishment of an Islamic government and the introduction of the true face of Islam.

Unfortunately, some of the authorities and many of the newly arrived writers in the mass media and also in government organizations and institutions not only do not pay heed to this serious item from the JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI newspaper, but rather by their improper and incorrect deeds actually alter the face of the Islamic Republic. As this same JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI newspaper has written, these gentlemen, by their improper acts, which are devoid of Islamic standards and mores, present an ugly face of Islam and the revolution to the people.

Numerous examples of the deeds of this group of individuals who hold sensitive posts in institutions, in government, security and judicial organizations can be shown, and instances of these deeds have even been published in our own newspapers.

We do not have to search very far. Let us consider this very imposed war and the self-sacrifice and heroism of the patriotic people of our homeland who are faithful to the revolution. From the war's outset, all the people and all the true revolutionary forces loyal to the imam's line mobilized all their power and might to defend the homeland and the gains of the revolution. Despite all difficulties and restrictions, the dissenting revolutionary parties and organizations called upon all their members, individuals and followers and the entire nation to repell the aggression and defend independence and the Islamic Republic of Iran. In accordance with the appeal of these parties and organizations, many of the revolutionary and patriotic youth, whether religious or nonreligious, voluntarily put on the sacred military garb and headed for the front.

In the terror of struggle, all soldiers and military personnel, having different religious and philosophical views, had and continue to have only one goal in mind -- namely, forcing the enemy from the homeland's soil and defending the revolution and independence of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

In the course of about 2 years of war we have repeatedly witnessed the list of the names of martyrs and the wills of heroes who selflessly went to the fronts and were martyred. However, at the same time we have also witnessed the bitter reality that many times some of the officials, with an insulting attitude, prevented the burial of these martyrs in the cemetery of the martyrs just because of their revolutionary opinions and philosophical views. Such an attitude toward issues connected with the pure patriotic feelings and self-sacrifice of the people is neither human nor Islamic.

NEW ALGERIAN ENVOY MEETS WITH VELAYATI

GF211749 Tehran IRNA in English 1615 GMT 21 Sep 82

[Text] Tehran, Sep 21, IRNA -- The new Algerian ambassador to the Islamic Republic, Abdelhamid Adjali, in a meeting today submitted copies of his credentials to Foreign Minister Velayati.

During the meeting, Adjali said that being an ambassador to the Islamic Republic was a heavy duty and hoped that with regard to the friendly and close relations existing between the two countries, he would succeed in carrying out his mission.

Dr Velayati replied that the two nations of Iran and Algeria launched their revolutions on the basis of Islam. The Algerian Muslim nation expelled the French colonialists while relying on Islam and the Iranian Muslim nation, inspired by Islam, expelled the U.S. and cut off the hands of imperialism.

The foreign minister continued that Algeria was considered as one of the closest countries to the Islamic Republic and hoped that the ambassador would succeed in expanding the friendly relations.

OFFICIAL COMMENTS ON TRADE AGREEMENT WITH BRAZIL

LD211804 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 21 Sep 82

[Text] According to an IRNA report, the managing director of our country's government trading company held a press conference today at which he announced:

An agreement for the purchase of goods worth $160 million from Brazil has been signed by Iran and Brazil, in accordance with which Brazil will purchase more oil from the Islamic Republic of Iran than the goods it would sell to Iran.

He said: During last Ordibehesht [month beginning 21 April 1982] an Iranian trade and economic delegation visited Brazil to study the possible expansion of economic and trade relations between the two countries. He added: Brazil could become a good source of such goods as industrial machinery, plastics, electric refrigerators, wheat, soya, maize and vegetable oil.

We have also held talks on the preliminaries for the export of such goods as dates, pistachios, dried fruit and mineral ores to Brazil. The results of these talks will be subsequently announced.

Pertaining to the purchase of goods and the elimination of intermediaries, he said: In the past, most of Iran's commercial purchases were conducted through multinational companies, but after the victory of the Islamic revolution an attempt was made to eliminate these intermediaries and our policy now is to carry out all our purchases directly from governments or cooperative companies controlled by governments.

On the other hand, the Islamic Republic of Iran, in its trade and economic relations with various countries, does not conduct transactions with countries which either harbor enmity toward or have no harmony with our Islamic revolution. In this connection we give priority to trading with the fraternal, friendly and nonaligned countries.

He added: The Iranian Government trading company annually imports 6-7 million tons of goods, resulting in one ship being unloaded per day.

COMMUNIQUE ON MALTESE FOREIGN MINISTER'S VISIT

LD211250 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 21 Sep 82

["Text" of joint communique released simultaneously in Tehran and Malta at the conclusion of the Maltese foreign minister's visit to Iran]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. At the invitation of Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati, the minister of foreign affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Dr Alex Sceberra Trigona, the minister of foreign affairs of Malta, and Mr [name indistinct], minister plenipotentiary of this country, paid an official visit to Iran from 18 to 20 September 1982.

During his stay in Iran, the Maltese minister of foreign affairs was received by the prime minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Mr Mir-Hoseyn Musavi, and met with the ministers of foreign affairs, commerce and petroleum and had talks with them on political, economic and cultural relations and other important international issues.

The two sides expressed mutual interest in expanding relations and cooperation and exchanged views on possible fields of cooperation and steps to be taken in order to fulfill these objectives.

Both sides seriously condemned the occupation of Islamic lands and the savage slaughter of the Palestinian Muslims in Lebanon by the Zionist forces of the regime occupying Jerusalem and termed these acts as the climax of Zionist and imperialist savagery.

The Maltese side praised the Islamic Republic of Iran's foreign policy based on the principle of "Neither East nor West" and the Iranian side announced its support for the stance of Malta, which is based on the policy of nonalignment. Both sides stated their decision to strengthen the Nonaligned Movement and expand all-round cooperation between the countries of the Third World.

The ministers of foreign affairs of the two countries expressed concern over the worsening situation in the Middle East and emphasized that it is necessary to put an end to the military presence and interference of colonialist countries in the Persian Gulf, the Indian Ocean and the Mediterranean Sea and that the security of this region should be maintained by the countries of the region. In connection with the occupation of Afghanistan by foreign forces, both sides once again demanded the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of these forces from Afghanistan and an end to interference in the internal affairs of this country. In addition, both sides stressed that the future of Afghanistan should be determined by the people of that country.

Both sides expressed their interest in expanding economic and trade relations between the two countries to the advantage of both parties. In this connection and with due consideration to the available facilities for cooperation between the two countries, both sides agreed that delegations dealing with shipbuilding and repairs, trade, joint investments in industries and health be exchanged.

The Maltese minister of foreign affairs expressed his sincere gratitude for the warm hospitality extended by the Islamic Republic of Iran during his stay in Iran.

The Maltese minister of foreign affairs invited the minister of foreign affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran to pay an official visit to Malta. This invitation was accepted with pleasure.

BRIEFS

NEW GOVERNORATE -- Ahvaz -- Andimeshk District has been redesignated as a governorate. The Public Relations Office of the Khuzestan governor general, in a contact with the Central News Unit, announced that the change was in accordance with the government decision on the new delineation of the divisions and subdivisions of the Islamic Republic of Iran. [Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 5 Sep 82 p 9 GF]